



Flathead City-County Health Department

1035 First Ave. West Kalispell, MT 59901

(406) 751-8101 FAX 751-8102

www.flatheadhealth.org

Community Health Services

751-8110 FAX 751-8111

Environmental Health Services

751-8130 FAX 751-8131

Reproductive Health Services

751-8150 FAX 751-8151

Home Health Services

751-6800 FAX 751-6807

WIC Services

751-8170 FAX 751-8171

Health Officer's Report

October 15, 2010

To: Flathead City-County Board of Health Members

From: Joe Russell

Re: Health Officer's Report

The following is the Health Officer's report for September through October 15th and will report matters to the Board that have policy or fiscal implications.

First Quarter FY 2010-2011 Financial Report

The first quarter financial reports are attached. They are very detailed and will give you a good look at the financial activity of the Department. I want to add a cash reserve revenue line so that you get a better understanding of our revenue use.

Legislative Matters

I copied the Board on an E-mail to Senator Bruce Tutvedt regarding legislation to remove the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) from the variance appeal process. As I mentioned to you last report, the DEQ is not opposed to this legislation. The Bill has been submitted and Jon Sonju has agreed to be the sponsor if he wins the election.

We have identified the exclusion of pertussis vaccine for those students entering seventh grade as a possible legislative change. Oftentimes we find un- or under immunized children in households with pertussis cases. The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) strongly recommend the pertussis component to the diphtheria and tetanus immunization required for children entering seventh grade. We also make that recommendation and most parents opt for the combination vaccine with all three components (DPT). With the increase in pertussis disease throughout the country we feel that this is important legislation.

I have discussed this matter with Dr. Bill Jones and if he is elected he would consider sponsoring a bill to remove the exemption. He feels that we should first discuss our bill request with Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director of DPHHS and get a feel for her support and the Governors'. I will call and get the process moving.

Other

I have a Food and Consumer Safety Study group meeting in Helena on October 27th. I have purchased the improvements on a state lease lot on McGregor Lake. The property has an unpermitted septic system and I have been going through the process of installing a fully-compliant and permitted septic system.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

EXPENSES

[illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Board of Health

Actual Results - Detail

[illegible]

Board of Health

Actual Results - Detail

Period ended:

REVENUE

[illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Period ended: September

Board of Health
Actual Results - Detail
Period ended: **September**

[illegible]

[illegible]

EXPENSES

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

[illegible]



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WIC Services
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Animal Shelter
752-1310 FAX 752-1546

October 4, 2010

Greg and Beth Puckett
Home and Ranch Store
8855 North Fork Road
Polebridge, MT 59928

Re: Follow-up on September 20, 2010 E-mail

Dear Mr. and Ms. Puckett,

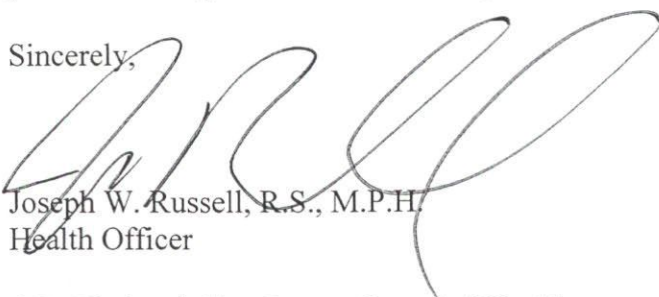
This will respond to your e-mail sent September 20, 2010.

We believe it is the best interest of public health and the environment to replace both systems and we are working with the property owners and their engineer to that end. The idea of including the Saloon in the needed replacement of the Mercantile's septic system was mine. The septic system for the Saloon was permitted and installed in 1976. The system is 35 years old and it certainly does not meet contemporary standards. That is not to say the system is illegal or to make any other inferences about its use. Our Department has changed considerably over the time that has lapsed since that permit was issued and that septic system was installed. We understand the flooding and groundwater conditions that exist in the area and we apply much higher standards to wastewater treatment. This is not meant as an indictment, it is just a natural progression of our septic system regulations and their application.

If you feel that you need to pursue this further please contact me and I will request the Chairperson of the Board of Health to place you on the agenda. I am prepared to address each of the issues brought up in your September 20th e-mail. The Board will meet next on October 21st.

Please contact me at least 10 business days in advance of the meeting date if you wish to be placed on the agenda. Contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,


Joseph W. Russell, R.S., M.P.H.
Health Officer

CC: Flathead City-County Board of Health